

Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) Meeting Summary

April 25, 2013, 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

MassDEP, One Winter Street, Boston, MA

Introductions and MassDEP Updates

Nancy Seidman, Assistant Commissioner for the Bureau of Waste Prevention, at MassDEP, provided a brief update on the status of the Final Solid Waste Master Plan. The Final Plan is expected to be published soon, but we do not have a specific date: {Note: The Final Plan was published on May 7, 2013 and is available on the MassDEP web site at

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/recycle/reports/solid-waste-master-plan.html>.]

Jamie Doucett provided an update on the development of solid waste regulatory reform regulations for 310 CMR 19.000. The draft regulations included provisions to streamline transfer station permitting, expand third party inspections, including for operation and maintenance and waste bans, and streamline special waste and post closure use permits. The comment period for the draft regulations ended on February 25, 2013. MassDEP received 14 written comments and is in the process of reviewing these comments, preparing a response to comments document, and developing final regulations. For more information on the draft regulations, see <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/service/regulations/proposed-and-recently-promulgated-regulations-.html#5>.

Some of the topics of comment included:

- The cost and frequency of third party inspections
- MassDEP's authority for site access
- Support for presumptive approval processes
- Concern with giving up MassDEP approvals for non-listed special wastes

John Fischer provided several other updates:

- MassDEP has been preparing the regulations and guidance for the commercial organics waste ban and these are nearly ready to go to the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs for approval. MassDEP continues to work towards an effective date for the ban in summer 2014.
- MassDEP is in the process of hiring three positions to work on waste ban compliance and enforcement. MassDEP hopes to have these positions filled by the end of summer 2013.
- The application for MassDEP's Sustainable Materials Recovery Program is now available on the MassDEP web site. MassDEP will be holding six grant information sessions. The grant applications are due June 12, 2013. MassDEP hopes to announce awards in September 2013. For more information on the grant application requirements, grant categories, and guidance on applying, please visit the MassDEP web site at <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/recycle/grants/smrp-grants.html> or contact Tina Klein at 617-292-5704 or tina.klein@state.ma.us.

Massport Recycling and Waste Reduction Programs, Glenn Adams, Massport

Glenn Adams of MASSPORT gave a presentation on recycling, waste reduction, and solid waste management initiatives at MASSPORT. This includes conducting a waste characterization study, going out to bid for a resource management contract, improving education and signage, and taking over additional waste management responsibilities from Logan Airport tenants. For more information, please see the presentation posted with these meeting notes or contact Glenn Adams at gadams@massport.com.

Massachusetts Reuse Alliance Launch, Edward Hsieh, Executive Director, MassRecycle

Edward Hsieh, Executive Director of MassRecycle, gave a presentation on the new Massachusetts Chapter of the Reuse Alliance. This new organization is working to promote increased reuse opportunities in Massachusetts. One focus area in the short term is increasing reuse opportunities for mattresses. For more information, please see the presentation posted with these meeting notes, or contact Edward Hsieh at director@massrecycle.org.

The Reuse Marketplace, Update and Demonstration, Sean Sylver, MassDEP

Sean Sylver of MassDEP provided a review and demonstration of the Reuse Marketplace, a regional materials reuse marketplace designed to serve businesses and institutions in Northeast states. The Reuse Marketplace is administered by the Northeast Recycling Council. You can visit the Reuse Marketplace, learn more about it, and sign up at <http://www.reusemarketplace.org/>. Participants discussed ways to encourage and promote more use of this system. Comments and suggestions included:

- Reach out to departments of public works, charities (e.g., Habitat for Humanity), and chambers of commerce as possible marketing targets.
- How to best reach out to top manufacturers in the state to encourage them to participate in the Reuse Marketplace (for old inventory, seconds, etc.)?
- Suggest using the system in conjunction with the waste bans to provide additional management options for waste ban materials.
- Post exchanges/example listings in the RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts news feed (<http://www.recyclingworksma.com/blog/>). For example, CET had a posting for reusing packing peanuts and has had some success with this.
- Encourage members to post listings for materials that will be available on a recurring basis, which could help build ongoing partnerships.
- What distinguishes the Reuse Marketplace from other resources? This includes the focus on businesses and institutions and ability to set alerts for certain types of postings. It would be helpful to remind members to set their alerts for items – will drive more traffic to site when listings are posted for the materials they may frequently need – instead of one-time visits.
- Contact the Institutional Recycling Network, GRRO, and the Furniture Trust to see if these groups would like to post listings.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, June 25, 2013 at MassDEP's Boston office. (Note that this has been changed from the regularly scheduled meeting date of Thursday, June 27, 2013.)